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CLASSIFICATION SECRET

COUNTRY Austria

REPORT NO.

TOPIC General Military Information

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EVALUATION see below

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT October to late November 1953

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

18 January 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

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1. On 22 November 1953, source learned in Vienna from Sergeant M [redacted] in Goetzendorf (P 49/X 57) that, on 21 November, General Bobruk (fmu) was in Goetzendorf on the occasion of the suicide of a Viktor Nikolayevich Panasovski who, because of drunkenness, had been demoted.

2. Information obtained by source in Vienna from Sergeant M [redacted] in Goetzendorf between 10 November and 1 December included:

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a. Officers arrived who, after graduation from an officers candidate school in the western part of the USSR, had served three years on Kamchatka Peninsula. They complained that food supply at Kamchatka was insufficient. As no fruits were available, even the 20-year old had lost hair.

b. The unit of informant was equipped with T-34/76 and T-34/85 tanks.

c. Lieutenant Colonel Kravchenko (fmu) was still commanding officer of the unit. As the exchange of officers between the Central Group of Forces and the USSR was stopped, the repatriation of Lieutenant Colonel Kravchenko scheduled for November was cancelled.

d. During October and November, individual groups of replacements from the Volga Oblast and the Chuvash ASSR arrived at Goetzendorf.

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Comment

25X1 Lieutenant Colonel Kravchenko (fmu) carried as commanding officer, was again confirmed. General Bobruk mentioned in paragraph 1 is identical with Gds Major General Bobruk (fmu), commander of the 13th Gds Mecz. The personnel exchange of troops stationed in Austria has been repeatedly reported in October and November 1953. Most of the recruits belong to the 1934 class.

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